
DIGEST

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Williams

HB No. 400

Abstract: Requires public schools to provide at least 30 minutes of physical activity each school day for students in grades seven and eight; requires schools to provide a morning and afternoon recess each day; and requires instruction in physical education as a prerequisite to public high school graduation.

Present law requires each public elementary school that includes any of the grades kindergarten through six to provide at least 30 minutes each school day of quality moderate to vigorous physical activity for students. Requires each such school annually to report to its board on the compliance with present law and further requires the school board annually to report to the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) on such compliance.

Proposed law retains present law and makes the requirement for physical activity applicable to public school students in grades seven and eight. Additionally requires such schools to provide a morning and afternoon recess each school day to extend the opportunity for physical activity for students to at least 60 minutes per day.

Proposed law further requires each public high school to give instruction in physical education, as a prerequisite to graduation, which shall be equal to four units of credit. Requires that such instruction be given in accordance with BESE rules and requires BESE to prescribe suitable teaching materials for the instruction.

Effective July 1, 2009.

(Amends R.S. 17:17.1(A)(1); Adds R.S. 17:264)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Education to the original bill.

1. Rather than increasing to 60 minutes the time which students are to be provided with quality physical activity, the bill as amended requires a morning and afternoon recess.